

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PORT O 00273 041327Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-01 DLOS-03

PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 STR-01 /073 W

----- 019671

R 032100Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7360

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0273

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EWWT, XL, XK, XM

SUBJ: MEETING TO ESTABLISH JOINT LATIN AMERICAN-CARIBBEAN

SHIPPING VENTURE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. MEXICO'S DEPUTY SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS,
RUEBEN GONZALES SOSO, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN PORT OF SPAIN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PORT O 00273 041327Z

JANUARY 31 TO ANNOUNCE THAT SHIPPING OFFICIALS FROM MEXICO,

VENEZUELA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WILL SOON HOLD TECHNICAL-LEVEL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF A JOINT MARITIME TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THIS AREA. THAT MEETING IS TO BE FOLLOWED BY A MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING, TO BE HELD IN COSTA RICA IN MAY. GONZALES SOSO SAID THAT PARTICIPATION IN THE TECHNICAL LEVEL MEETING HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF TRINIDAD, VENEZUELA, BARBADOS, JAMAICA, AND COSTA RICA, AND THAT INVITATION WILL ALSO BE EXTENDED TO CUBA, HAITI, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, COLOMBIA, GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA. THE GONZALES SOSO DELEGATION COMPRISED NINE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PLUS HORACE CLARKE, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION SIN JAMAICA, AND ENRIQUE GONZALES, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE IN COSTA RICA.

2. PURPOSE OF THE NEW COMPANY IS NOT ONLY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SCHEDULED SHIPPING SERVICES IN THE AREA, BUT ALSO TO BOOST INTRA-REGIONAL TRADE AND PROVIDE STIMULUS TO THE VARIOUS REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION MOVEMENTS. ACCORDING TO COMMENTS MADE AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, ONLY GOVERNMENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SHIPPING VENTURE; THE PRIVATE SECTOR WILL BE EXCLUDED, EVEN THOUGH THE PROPOSED SERVICES ARE TO BE "NOT COMPETITIVE WITH, BUT SUPPLEMENTARY TO EXISTING SHIPPING SERVICES."

END UNCLASSIFIED

3. ACCORDING TO GOT SHIPPIING OFFICIALS, THE PORT OF SPAIN ANNOUNCEMENT DESCRIBED DISCUSSIONS BEGUN AT A JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 1 MEETING IN ST. LUCIA, WHERE GOVERNMENT SHIPPING OFFICIALS FROM ENGLISH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES HAD FIRST DISCUSSED THE MEXICAN PROPOSAL. THE TRINIDAD OFFICIALS CONFIRMED THAT THE GOT AND OTHER CARIBBEAN GOVERNMEMUS PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN A TECHNICAL-LEVEL MEETING IN MEXICO LATE IN FEBRUARY. THEY EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE SURPRISE AND ASTONISHMENT, HOWEVER AT THE FACT THAT GONZALES SOSO HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE, SINCE THE TRINIDADIAN HA D
D
UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SERIES OF MEETINGS (AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED SHIPPING VENTURE) WERE INTENDED TO BE CONFIDENTIAL.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PORT O 00273 041327Z

4. COMMENT: THIS PROPOSAL PRESUMABLY IS PART OF OTHER MEXICAN AND VENEZUELAN INITIATIVES RECENTLY TAKEN TOWARD CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. TRINIDAD'S PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS HAS REPEATEDLY CALLED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SHIPPING SERVICES OWNED BY CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS TO HAUL PETROLEUM AND BAUXITE, IN ADDITION TO THE TINY SERVICE WHICH NOW HANDLES SOME GENERAL CARGO (WEST INDIES SHIPPING CO.). THUS TRINIDAD MIGHT WELL BECOME AN ENTHUSIASTIC

SUPPORTER OF A WIDER-RANGING PROPOSAL SUCH AS THIS MEXICAN INITIATIVE

JUDGING FROM THEIR SURPRISE THAT THE MEXICANS CALLED A
PRESS CONFERENCE, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS THAT THE TRINIDADIANS
STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT THE MOTIVES BEHIND MEXICAN
INITIATIVES FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH CARIBBEAN STATES.

MILLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARINE TRANSPORTATION, JOINT VENTURES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTO00273
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750040-0668
From: PORT OF SPAIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750277/aaaacruy.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING TO ESTABLISH JOINT LATIN AMERICAN-CARIBBEAN SHIPPING VENTURE
TAGS: EINV, ETRD, EWWT, XL, XK, XM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006